



## Mullins named Police Officer of Year for 2012

Story and photo by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

A retired Army first sergeant and former correctional officer has been selected as the APG Directorate of Emergency Services Police Officer of the Year for 2012. Patrol Officer William P. Mullins was officially recognized as the 2012 honoree during a March 19 ceremony at DES headquarters.

Those on hand to present awards and congratulate Mullins included APG Garrison Commander Col. Gregory McClinton; Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin; Glen Wait, deputy to the garrison commander; Chris Ferris, director of Emergency Services and Maj. Charles Honan, chief, DES Police Services Division.

Mullins served at APG as the first sergeant of the Combat Systems Test Activity for two years before it was re-designated the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center in 1995. Fortuitously, all of his post-retirement employment opportunities leaned toward security and law enforce-



Patrol officer William P. Mullins is the Directorate of Emergency Services Police Officer of the Year for 2012. Mullins is an Army retiree who worked for the Maryland Transportation Authority and as a Cecil County correction officer prior to joining the DES security force in 2001.

ment. He worked as a personal protection specialist (bodyguard); on bridge security for the Maryland Transportation Authority; and as a correctional officer at the Cecil County Detention Cen-

ter before acquiring a DES security position after the 9-11 terrorist attacks in 2001. In 2008 he applied for and was accepted for training at the former APG Police Academy and has been a DES patrol

officer ever since.

Mullins thanked his supervisor, Lt. Barry Barnett and Squad Sgt. Thomas DeMaria for nominating him.

See **POLICE**, page 10

## Sequester furloughs – what it means to the IMCOM workforce

By **ROBERT DOZIER**  
U.S. Army IMCOM

Army civilian personnel are bracing for the impact of furloughs and changing financial priorities on their organizations.

Approximately 251,000 Department of the Army civilians expect to be notified soon if they will be furloughed up to 22 days starting in April.

In order to meet national security responsibilities, IMCOM is prioritizing readiness and programs based on the Army strategy, while adjusting to the fiscal resources available.

Furloughs are a result of the Budget Control Act passed Aug. 2, 2011, which requires more than \$487 billion in cuts from the defense base budget over 10 years, beginning in fiscal year 2013. A furlough places an employee in a temporary non-duty and non-pay status.

The Department of Defense

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## Brain injury awareness event March 28

By **RACHEL PONDER**  
APG News

Esteemed experts in the field of adult, child and sports-related brain injuries will speak at a brain injury awareness event held at the post theater March 28 from 1 to 4 p.m.

The interactive discussion will be led by professionals from the Brain Injury Association of Maryland and the Kennedy Krieger Institute, allowing for questions from the audience. The audience will also have the opportunity to participate in a sensory and perception simulation exercise, which will replicate someone living with a Traumatic Brain Injury, or TBI. Models of the brain will also be displayed.

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is sponsoring the event in honor of March having been designated as Brain Injury Awareness Month. Every year 1.7 million people, including 475,000 children, in the United States sustain a Traumatic Brain Injury and 3.1 million individuals live with life-long disability as a result of TBI.

“Brain injury awareness is an issue that needs to be addressed in every community,” said KUSAHC’s Chief of Behavioral

See **BRAIN**, page 11

## Timber harvest set to begin on EUL area

By **ADRIANE FOSS**  
Garrison APG Public Affairs

St. John Properties (SJP) will begin clearing 41.75 acres of Aberdeen Proving Ground’s Enhanced Used Leasing (EUL) area for construction later this month.

Located just outside of the APG’s Route 715 main gate, the acreage will be cleared of timber and marketed for what some hope will be a bustling retail space, complete with restaurants, a hotel, conference center and child care facility.

SJP obtained Army-approved, exclusive development rights for the 417 acres that make up the EUL area in 2009. Referred to as the GATE (Government and Technology Enterprise), the EUL area is leased by

This is not a new project. This timber harvest is part of a comprehensive forest conservation plan, approved by APG and Maryland’s Department of Natural Resources.

Nathan Osborne,

Real Estate Division chief for APG’s Directorate of Public Works

Aberdeen Proving Ground to SJP, which plans to develop the space into a retail and business park that will include 2 million square feet of office, lab, research and flex space, over the next 44 years.

“This is not a new project,” said Nathan Osborne, Real Estate Division chief for APG’s Directorate of Public Works

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## Garrison employee writes of historic ‘Perry Hall Mansion’

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

For as long as he can recall, Sean Kief has always known about the Perry Hall Mansion in Baltimore County. The APG Garrison photographer says the 250-year-old edifice, which the town of Perry Hall was named after, was the subject of countless vivid stories delivered by his grandmother, Myrl M. Smith, who was born inside the mansion and who served as Postmaster for the Fullerton postal branch in the 1950s and 60s. Adulthood did not diminish Kief’s fondness for the quiet yet compelling history



Kief

of the famous building. He eventually joined the Historic Perry Hall Mansion Inc. group, an organization dedicated to maintaining, managing and promoting the mansion, and with help from the group’s administrative director, Jeffrey Smith, began an information-gathering project that resulted in a book contract with Arcadia Publishing, the nation’s leading local history publisher.

On March 9, Kief and co-author Smith introduced “Perry Hall Mansion” an “Images of America” series book, during a presentation and book-signing for about 60 members and guests in the mansion’s Great Hall. The time-worn, musty floors and walls of the mansion added to the ambiance as guests listened and watched slides depicting the building’s history from the laying of its foundation in 1773

See **GARRISON**, page 10

## AER campaign begins March 25

By **RACHEL PONDER**  
APG News

The 2013 Army Emergency Relief Campaign will kick off March 25.

The theme for this year’s campaign, which runs through May 31, is “Supporting Soldiers and their Families; Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow,” recognizes the vital role AER plays in enabling Soldiers to better focus on accomplishing their mission.

This year’s goal for APG is

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### WEATHER

Thurs.



38° | 28°

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ICE system  
http://ice.disa.mil/  
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**Civilian team secures Soldiers’ compound in Afghanistan**

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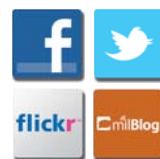


**Women’s event offers career training, celebrates history**

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### ONLINE

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Army-wide program returns barracks management to NCOs **PAGE 8**



STREET TALK

If you could be an Olympic athlete which sport would you compete in and why?

I would play volleyball. I used to play in high school and college and on the community team when I lived in Mannheim [Germany]. At one time I thought about going for it a [scholarship] but it didn't work out. I prefer indoor to beach volleyball.



Karen Wood  
MWR Recreation Assistant

I'd probably run track and field because that would be the best chance for me to win a medal. I played basketball [in school]. I was average but I was pretty much the fastest one on the team.



Terrek Whitaker  
MWR Recreation Assistant

It would have to be wrestling because I wrestled in high school. The only other sports I play are football and baseball.

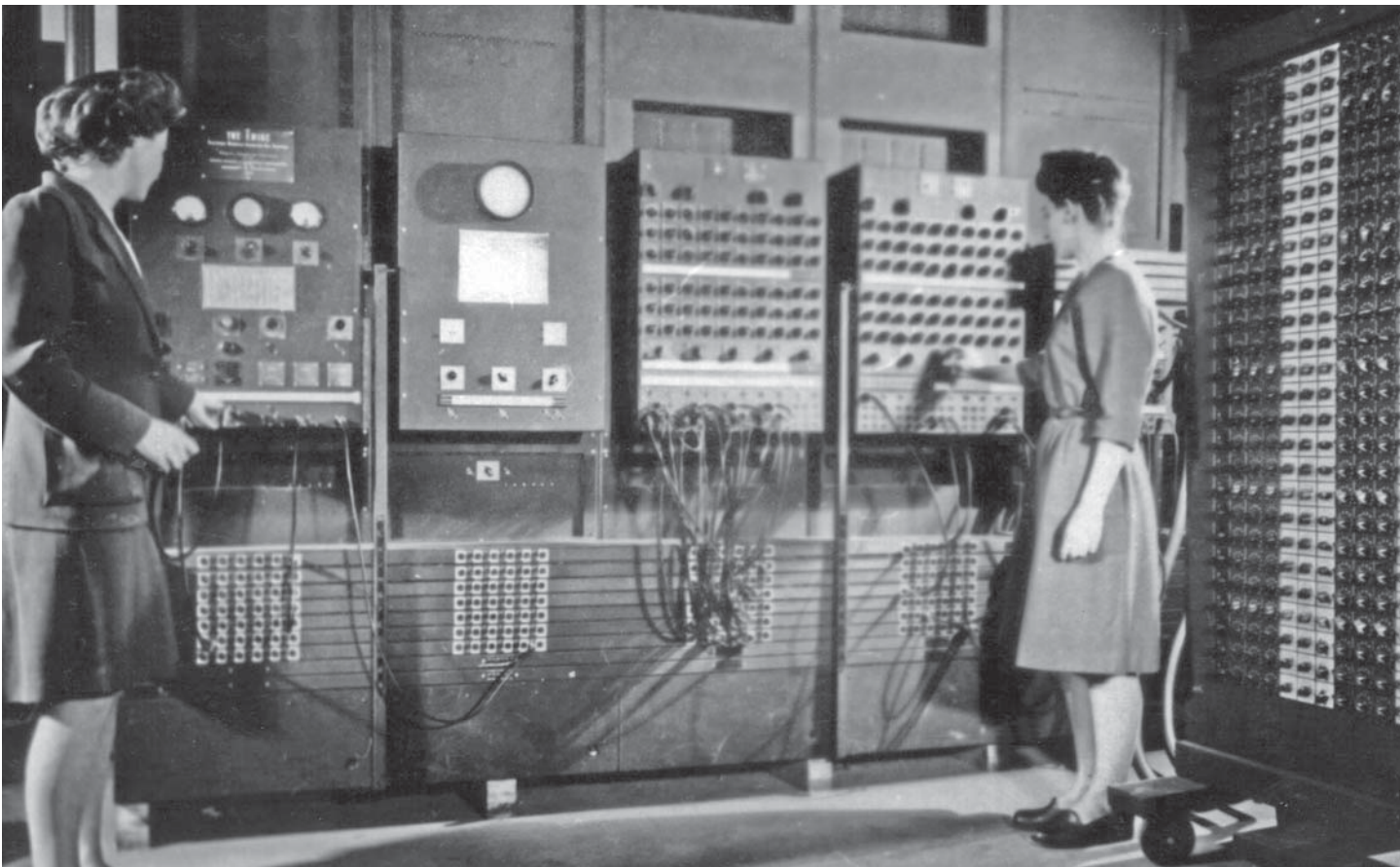


Kevin Bullins  
Directorate of Public Works

I'd like to play basketball because of the endurance. You have to move all the time. I like sports like that. I love Sunday football too but they don't have that in the Olympics.



Billy Woodard  
Military/civilian retiree



Elizabeth Jean Jennings and Frances Bilas preparing for the public unveiling of ENIAC.

U.S. Army photo

Women's History Month: ENIAC, first computer programmers

By EGON HATFIELD  
RDECOM History Office

Anyone interested in the history of computing knows of the U.S. Army's ground-breaking Electronic Numerical Integrator and Computer. ENIAC was the world's first operational, general purpose, electronic digital computer.

The computer consisted of 70,000 resistors, 10,000 capacitors, 1,500 relays, 6,000 manual switches and 5 million soldered joints. Eight feet high, it covered 1800 square feet (167 square meters) of floor space, weighed 30 tons and consumed 160 kilowatts per hour of electrical power.

Initially utilized to support the Manhattan Project near the end of World War II, it was demonstrated to the public on Feb. 15, 1946 and evolved during the next few years to become the first operating, stored-program computer.

ENIAC was operated first at the Moore School of Electrical Engineering of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. In late 1946 to early 1947, it was dismantled and moved to the Ballistics Research Laboratory at Aberdeen Proving Ground, becoming operational there on July 29, 1947.

The world of early computer design and construction was a male-dominated work domain; however, manpower demands of WWII enabled women with mathematical degrees or an ability in different types of mathematics to operate the equipment, receiving the title of "computers."

Women were soon regarded as capable of "computing" more quickly and more accurately than men.

Once the ENIAC was ready to perform as a stored-program computer, the need arose for another type of computer specialist, the programmer. Six women, from a pool of nearly 100 women employed by the BRL, were hired in June 1945 as the first programmers.

They are listed here, using their maiden names as they were all unmarried at the time, their universities and majors:

- Kathleen McNulty, Chestnut Hill College for Women, Philadelphia

The computer consisted of

70,000 resistors

10,000 capacitors

1,500 relays

6,000 manual switches and

5 million soldered joints

Eight feet high, it covered

1800 square feet (167 square meters) of floor space,

weighed 30 tons and consumed

160 kilowatts per hour of electrical power.

- (Mathematics)
- Frances Bilas, Chestnut Hill College for Women, Philadelphia (Mathematics)
  - Elizabeth Jean Jennings, Northwest Missouri State Teachers' College (Mathematics)
  - Frances Elizabeth Snyder, University of Pennsylvania (English & Journalism)
  - Ruth Lichterman, Hunter College (Mathematics)
  - Marlyn Wescoff, Temple University (Social Studies & English)
- Two of the women were told that "girls really didn't study mathematics in college." Once hired at a sub-professional level, they were told that only men could get professional ratings. Finally, in November 1946, many of the women then employed

received professional ratings.

The programmers initially studied logical block diagrams of the ENIAC and asked questions of the design engineers. Understanding what ENIAC could do or not do, the women began to be qualified in troubleshooting problems, even down to replacing one of the 17,468 vacuum tubes.

A trajectory program was the first to be completed and was run as part of the public demonstration.

The first six programmers of the ENIAC exemplify what Women's History Month tries to showcase. All six were intelligent. They didn't want to teach, which was expected of college-educated women at the time. They were resourceful, working without user manuals, reconfiguring ENIAC as the programs changed. As true pioneers, they helped launch the age of computing.

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST

Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
38° 28°	47° 32°	49° 34°	48° 37°	41° 36°	51° 38°	51° 38°

APG NEWS

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: IMAP-PA, Building 305, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1153. Printed circulation is 8,900.

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Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

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# Civilian engineering team secures Soldiers’ compound in Afghanistan

By **DAN LAFONTAINE**  
*RDECOM*

American Soldiers in Afghanistan were recently challenged in securing a facility for coalition forces. They turned to deployed U.S. Army civilian engineers for a solution.

Soldiers from the 1st Squadron, 9th U.S. Cavalry Regiment, known as the 1-9 Cav, had been unsuccessful in finding the expertise they needed to design, build and install new force-protection measures. After meeting with the forward deployed engineering cell from the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, a fix began to take shape.

**Civilians, Soldiers developing solutions**

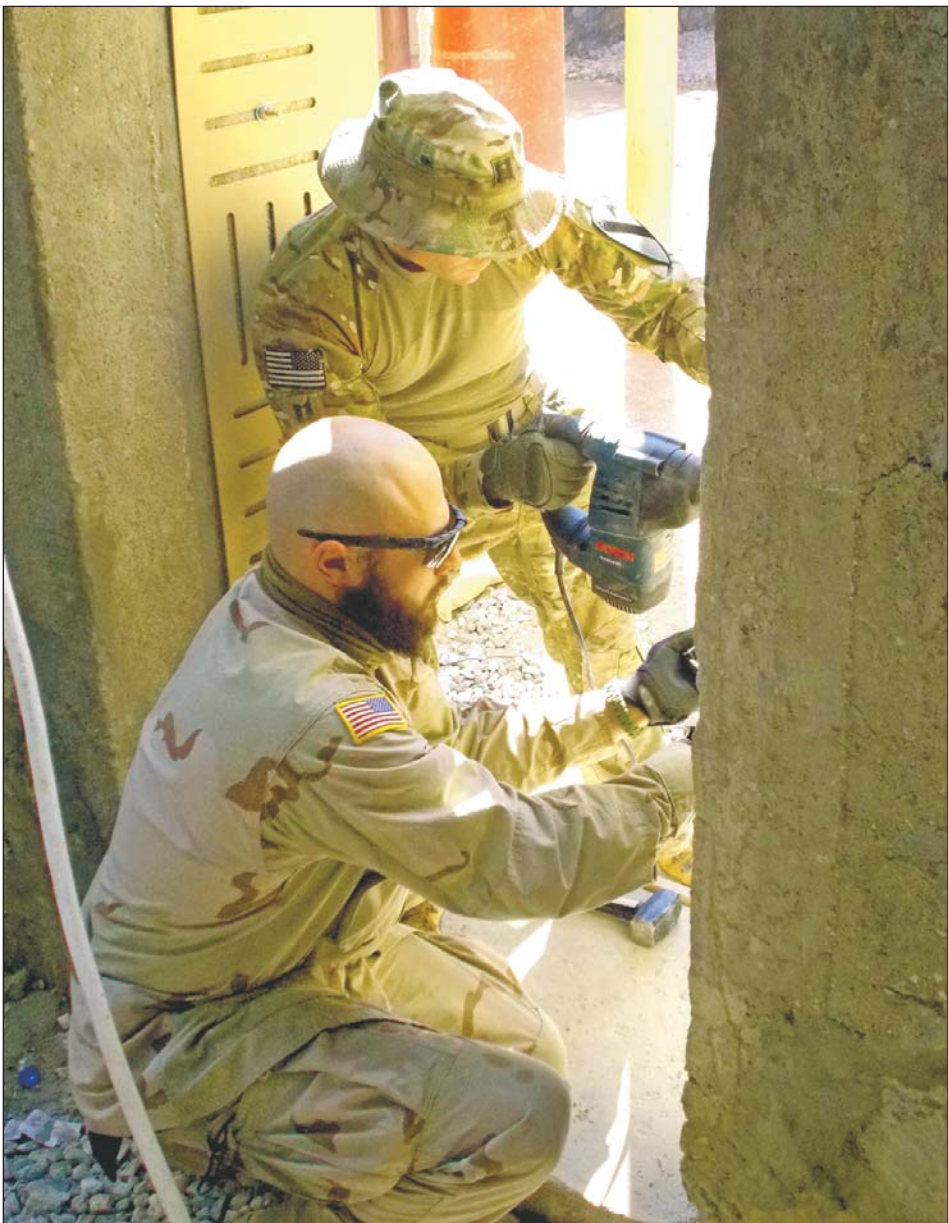
Steve Roberts, a mechanical engineer from RDECOM’s Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center, led the effort. He said the project demonstrates how the team overcomes obstacles created by the nine time zones and 7,000 miles that separate stateside Army engineers and technicians from Soldiers in the Middle East.

“We were able to assess the site, perform the design reviews, create prototypes, come up with final products, and do an install within a month,” Roberts said in an interview from Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. “If we would need to reach back to the states to get this type of work done, it would have taken a minimum of three months, probably closer to six.”

The RDECOM Field Assistance in Science and Technology-Center, or RFAST-C, Forward Deployed Prototype Integration Facility develops engineering solutions in cooperation with the Army Materiel Command’s 401st Army Field Support Brigade.

Roberts, executive officer Dan McGauley, Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center; equipment operator Jon-Luke DeStephano, ARDEC; and engineering technician Bob Spetla, ARDEC, comprised the RFAST-C group that completed the security improvements.

Capt. Mitchell Monette, the 1-9 Cav officer-in-charge of force-protection



U.S. Army photo

**Jon-Luke DeStefano (RFAST-C equipment operator) and Capt. Mitchell Monette (1-9 Cav officer-in-charge of force-protection improvements) work on security infrastructure enhancements at an Army combat outpost in Afghanistan.**

improvements, praised the RFAST-C’s efforts in providing security upgrades for his Soldiers.

“I couldn’t believe the level of efficiency and professionalism that the engineers brought,” Monette said. “Internal Army assets were fully engaged with other projects so the recommendation was made to contact RFAST-C.

“After seeing the quality of the workmanship that went in to the upgrades,

I’m very happy with the outcome and will continue to call on their expertise if needed. It was a pleasure to be working with this organization.”

The project included designing, constructing and installing a metal door and frame, observation screens to allow movement in the compound without being monitored, and retaining devices to increase wall height using sandbags.

Security Forces Advise and Assist

Team 8 members requested the modifications in early January. The RFAST-C installed the frame, door and observation screen framework Feb. 16.

**Engineering capabilities in theater**

RFAST-C Director Michael Anthony, who works for RDECOM’s Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center, said the team’s rapidly developed prototypes would not be possible without being on-site with the Soldiers.

“That’s the benefit of having a forward deployed team of Army civilians who are experts in their field and can quickly build prototypes,” Anthony said. “Being in theater allows us to assess the situation to develop a rapid, engineered solution. We get immediate feedback and can adjust the effort where needed. It saves time and valuable resources.”

McGauley said RFAST-C’s unique capabilities enable solutions that Soldiers could not find elsewhere. RDECOM established RFAST-C in spring 2011 and began full operations in December 2011.

“It’s a reputation that RFAST-C has developed here at Bagram Airfield. They heard about us from another unit,” he said.

Because Soldiers are not accustomed to having the support of an engineering team embedded in a combat zone, they often attempt their own fixes without the necessary expertise, materials or equipment, DeStephano said.

“Out here, if there is no one to provide the work or resources, [Soldiers] work around it,” he said. “A lot of times they get so used to doing this, they don’t even know where to turn. They don’t expect much help.

“They were overwhelmed. We worked hand-in-hand [and] felt a sense of accomplishment working together.”

**‘RFAST-C is a force multiplier’**

The four RFAST-C members first traveled to the compound and performed a site survey. Roberts said he used the software ProEngineer at the PIF to develop models.

**See ENGINEERING, page 11**



# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**TUESDAY**  
**MARCH 26**  
**GARRISON TOWN HALL**

Col. Gregory McClinton, APG Garrison commander, will host a Garrison Town Hall from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Post Theater. Topics to be discussed will include sequestration and furlough and awards will be presented. For more information, contact Lisa McClure at 410-278-0003.

**FINANCIAL PLANNING INFO SESSION**

Could there be five steps to a better financial future? Find out as Susan Manning, Business Development Specialist, Freedom Federal Credit Union, discusses: how to set realistic financial goals for you and your family, how to identify your “spending leaks”, how to track where your money goes, how to develop a spending plan, how to avoid the pitfalls of overspending, and how to manage your tracking and spending system. Location: Myer Auditorium, noon to 1 pm. For more information, call 443-861-7910.

**THURSDAY**  
**MARCH 28**  
**BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS**

March is Brain Injury Awareness Month. The community is invited to a brain injury awareness event, presented by some of the most esteemed experts in the field of adult, child, and sports-related brain injuries. The event is set at the post theater from 1 to 4 p.m., and everyone is welcome. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

**MONDAY**  
**APRIL 1**  
**SPRING SPIES**

Search for the clues that spring is here at the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center. Meet several creatures that are just waking from a cozy winters’ rest, and create a craft to ring in spring. This program will be held 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. for ages 7 to 12. The cost is \$10 and online registration is required at [www.otterpointcreek.org](http://www.otterpointcreek.org). For information or directions to center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**TUESDAY**  
**APRIL 2**  
**THE GIVING TREE**

Explore and learn what special gifts trees and plants give at the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center. Hike the shoreline and forest, create a tree ID book, and sample treats from the trees. This program will be held 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. for ages 7 to 12. The cost is \$10 and online registration is required at [www.otterpointcreek.org](http://www.otterpointcreek.org).

For information or directions to center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**MAKE VISION A HEALTH PRIORITY**

Vision is an important, but often overlooked, part of overall health. Despite the preventable nature of some vision problems, many people do not receive recommended screenings and exams. The CECOM Wellness Program will host a Vision Informational Session, where Sue Unger, PAHM I National Account Manager, United Healthcare Vision, Federal Employee Dental & Vision Insurance Program will provide useful information and tips on how to maintain and/or rebuild optimal eye health. Location: Myer Auditorium, Building 6000 from noon to 1:00 pm.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**APRIL 3**  
**LESSONS OF THE HEART OR HOW TO LOVE YOUR HEART!**

Discussion Points Include Heart Aches (Disease) and the Dietary Approach to Stopping Hypertension (DASH). This event will be held in room A 105, ATEC HQ, Building 2202 from noon to 1 pm. For more information call 443-861-9260

**WEDNESDAYS IN APRIL**  
**STARTING APRIL 3**  
**QUIT AND/OR STAY-QUIT FROM USING TOBACCO SESSIONS**

Do you want to learn about strategies to quit using tobacco? Are you a quitter who is feeling stressed and thinking about smoking again? Join a

casual Lunch-n-Learn group to discuss strategies to make and sustain behavior change, understand stress triggers, identify new coping skills and relaxation techniques and how to eat a healthier diet. Each session will be geared to the needs of those present. Attendance at all classes is not required. Location: Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, 3rd Floor Conference Room. noon to 12:45 p.m. Call Ann Laughton, PHN, at 410-278-1774 for more information.

**TUESDAY**  
**APRIL 9**  
**ALCOHOL AWARENESS SCREENINGS**

April marks Alcohol Awareness Month, a nationwide campaign intended to raise awareness of the health and social problems that excessive alcohol consumption can cause for individuals, their families, and their communities. Excessive drinking is a dangerous behavior for both men and women. The CECOM Wellness Program invites you to take part in Alcohol Awareness Screenings conducted by the APG Army Substance Abuse Program. Stop by to receive a free screening, useful information, advice, and more. Location: MTF Lobby, Building 6008, from 11a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information call 443-861-7910.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**APRIL 10**  
**EXECUTIVE QUALIFICATIONS**

CECOM Deputy Commander Gary Martin will give a class on Executive Core Qualifications for GS-14/15 and other pay system equivalents who are interested in developing a career in the Senior Executive Service (SES). The class will be held in the Mission Training Facility, MTF Bldg. 6008, Room 3, from 1-3 p.m. The class holds 30 personnel so sign up soon at <https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=145821&k=036547017956>. For more information, visit the APG Senior Manager Association at <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/apg-sr-manager-group>.

**THURSDAY**  
**APRIL 11**  
**FLYING SOLO FOR SINGLES INFORMATIONAL SESSION**

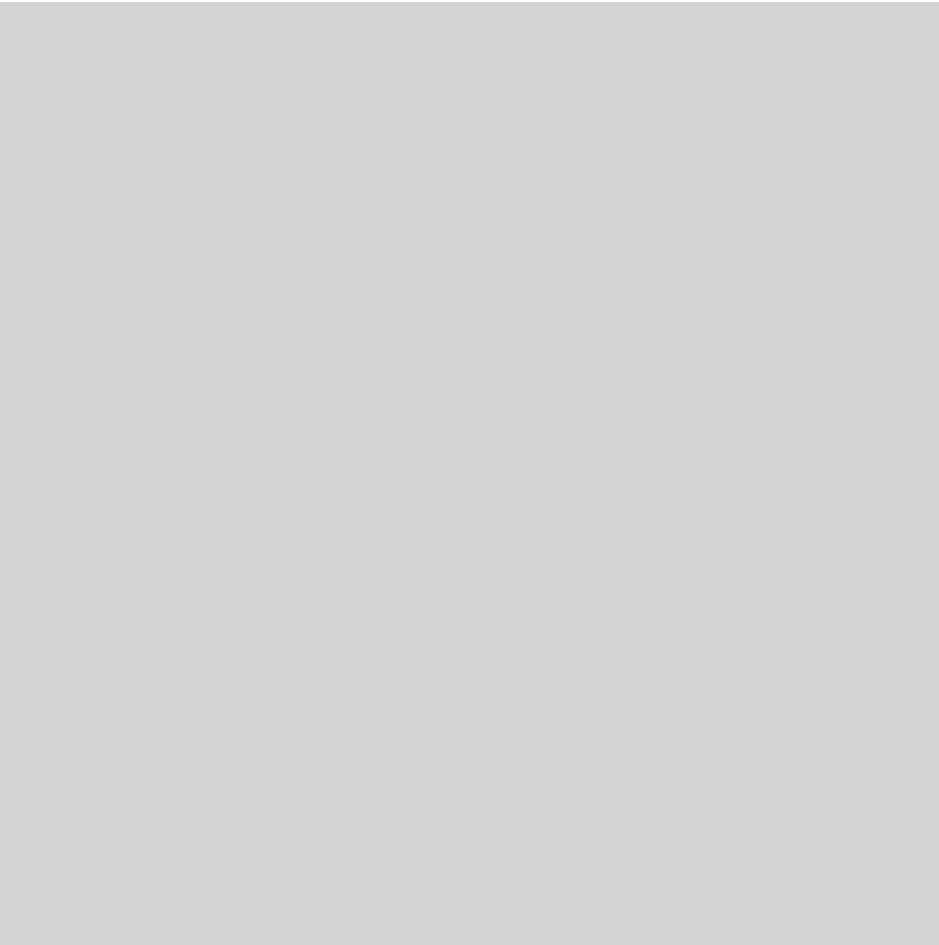
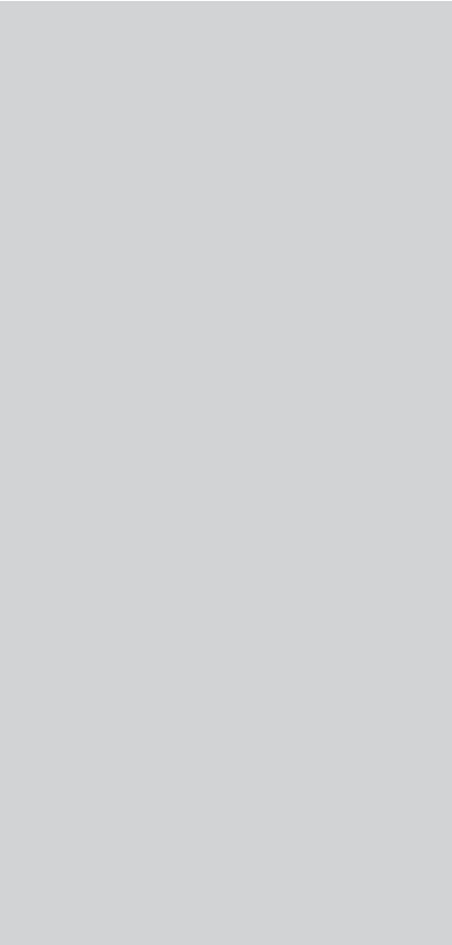
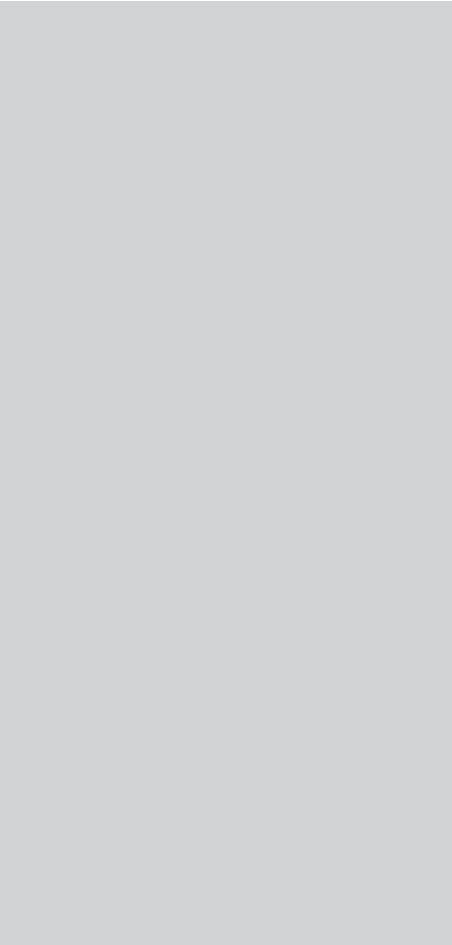
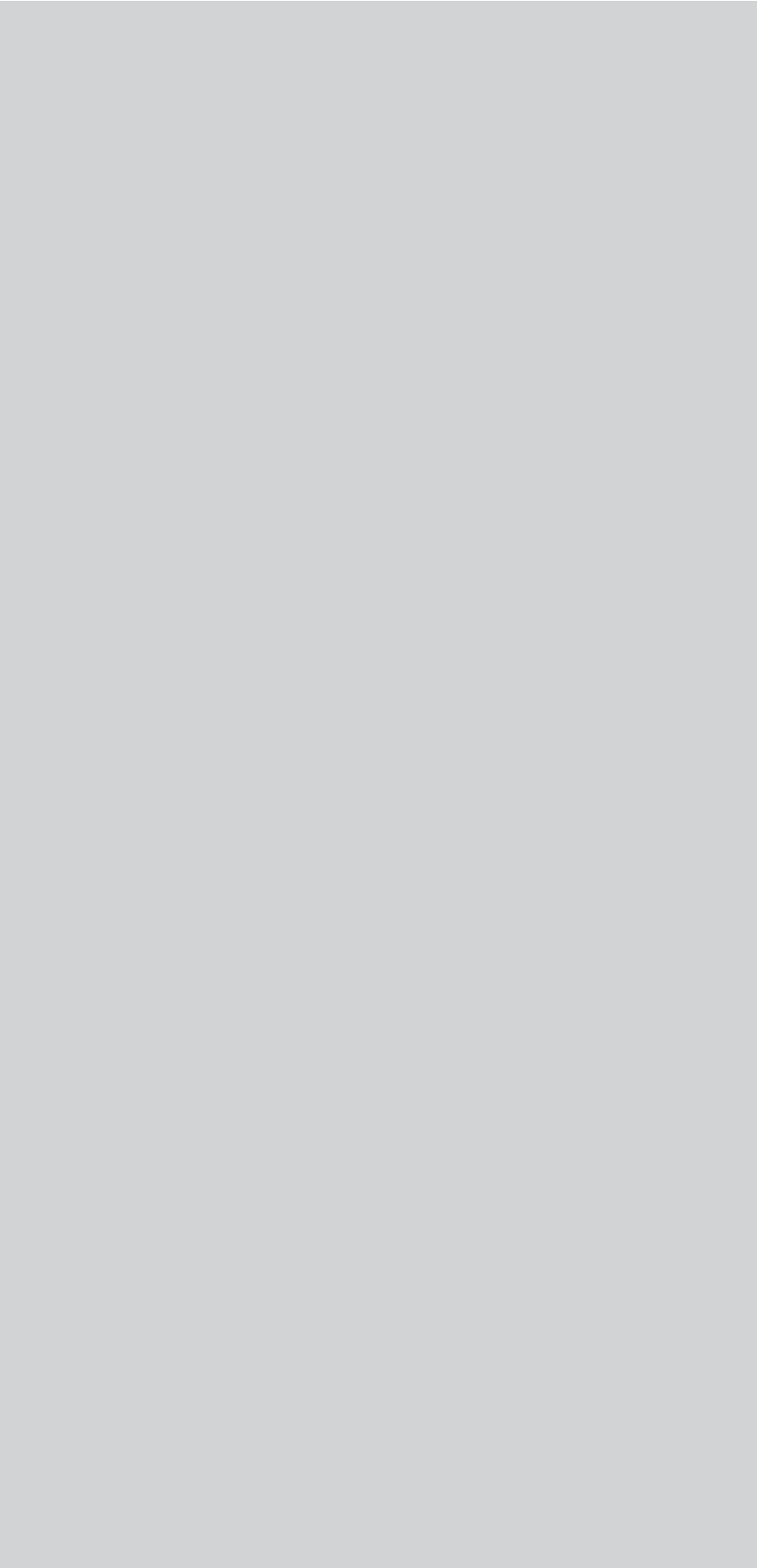
The CECOM Wellness Program invites all singles to attend the Flying Solo for Singles Informational Session. As a single person, a financial road map and a team of trusted advisors will make the difference to your financial well-being. In this session, Michelle Rackey, ChFEBC, Executive Director GEBA, will discuss the unique financial needs of singles. Location: Myer Auditorium, Building 6000, from noon to 1 p.m. For more information call 443-861-7910.

**WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY**  
**APRIL 10-11**  
**SPRING-TASTIC DATES**

The 2013 “Spring-Tastic” Bazaar has been rescheduled for April 10-11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg 3326. There will be live entertainment by Matt Kineke. The event features arts and crafts, home décor, bags and purses, jewelry, gift items, baked goods and more! Free Samples! Door prizes include a Kindle Fire 8.9. Visit <http://apgmwr.com/images/events2/2013SpringBazaar3.pdf> for information, or call the MWR Leisure Travel Office at 410-278-4011.

**SATURDAY**  
**APRIL 13**  
**D.C. CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL**

The National Cherry Blossom Festival is an annual two-week event that celebrates springtime in Washington, D.C. as well as the 1912 gift of the cherry blossom trees and the enduring friendship between the people of the United States and Japan. Attend one of Washington’s most exciting traditions. Cost is \$32 per person and the bus departs Aberdeen at 7:30 a.m. and returns at 7:30 p.m. The parade runs 10 a.m. - noon, rain or shine. Enjoy this longstanding Washington tradition featuring floats, balloons, marching bands and other family entertainment. Space is limited. Reserve your seats today.



TUESDAY

APRIL 16  
C4ISR RESILIENCY/  
RELAXATION FAIR

With the stresses of the tax season, the uncertainty of sequestration, as well as gas and food prices fluctuating, the CECOM Wellness Program and the C4ISR Wellness Committee will hold the first C4ISR Resiliency/Relaxation Fair. Massage and chiropractic services; stress, financial, and anger management information; as well as acupuncture, reflexology, hypnosis, physical therapy, and fitness information will be offered.

Representatives from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic’s Behavioral Health, The APG Wellness Center, Army Substance Abuse Program, and APG Family and Morale Welfare & Recreation, along with the APG Federal Credit Union, Freedom Federal Credit Union, Harford County-Dept of Community Affairs, and other local health professional will be in attendance to answer questions and about their services. Location: MTF, Building 6008-Multipurpose Room 10B, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information call 443-861-7910.

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 17  
LIVING HEALTHY, LIVING WELL

Author Phyllis Bullins will present maintenance tips for folks engaged in a weight loss plan or those who are considering beginning one. This is an opportunity to speak to the woman who wrote the book on achieving a healthy weight and improving the quality of your life. The event will be held in room A 101, ATEC HQ, Building 2202, from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

For more information call 443-861-9260.

TUESDAY

APRIL 23  
HANDLING CONFLICT IN  
THE WORKPLACE AND  
PRESCRIPTION TAKE BACK

Workplaces are naturally stressful environments and personal conflicts between co-workers can be both a cause and product of this stress. Allowing stress to intensify will only further cripple the work environment. In this session, Anne Healy, Federal

Employee Program Account Executive, BlueCross BlueShield, will discuss how recognizing the problem and taking positive action can help solve the problem and make the office a place where you want to go each day.

Location: Myer Auditorium, Building 6000, from noon to 1 pm.

The APG Prescription/Over-the-Counter Take-Back Campaign kicks off Monday, April 22 through Friday, April 26. Please bring any expired, unused, and unwanted prescription (RX) drugs and over-the-counter (OTC) medicines to the Myer Auditorium Lobby, Bldg. 6000, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 24  
NUTRITION & OBESITY  
PREVENTION: WHAT’S GOING  
ON IN THE U.S.? WHAT CAN  
YOU DO ABOUT IT?

Jennifer Mayer, Community Health Advocate from Johns Hopkins Priority Partners, will be the guest speaker. She will address portion sizes, FDA recommendations (My Plate) and exercise as well as provide dramatic visual aids and cooking tips. This event will be held in room A 105, ATEC HQ, Bldg. 2202 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information call 443-861-9260

JULY 8-12  
SUMMER SOCCER CAMP

Challenger Sports is partnering with British Soccer Camps, the largest and most popular soccer camp program in the United States and Canada. Challenger coaches study the game at all levels and have identified the key techniques and skills players need to master to reach their true potential. Each day of the camp includes individual foot skills, technical drills, tactical practices, small-sided games, coached scrimmages, and a daily World Cup tournament.

The camp will be held July 8 -12 at the APG soccer fields. For more information or to sign up, contact Gary Hodgson at ghodgson@challengersports.com or call 443-552-0509.

MONDAYS

APG THEATER GROUP  
SEEKING MEMBERS

Need more drama in your life? More laughs? Want to improve your

public speaking skills, or learn how to look 10 years younger instantly? Then the APG Theater workshops are for you. The classes are geared to assist anyone in bringing out their best while performing, interacting one-on-one, or speaking before a small group. Find out what your body language is saying, but what your words are revealing.

Classes run for approximately four weeks, and are held every other Monday at 5 p.m. in the APG North recreation center ballroom. A certificate of participation is presented at the end of the class.

The workshop is free, and dates and times are subject to change.

If interested, stop by the APG North or South recreation centers during regular business hours to fill out a registration form, email patricia.a.devine6.naf@mail.mil, or call 410-278-9451.

THURSDAYS

SOCIAL HOUR

Socialize, network or just unwind with fellow Soldiers, coworkers, friends and Family while enjoying good food, music and camaraderie during Thursday Socials, 4 to 7 p.m., in the Top of the Bay Gunpowder Lounge.

Thursday Socials include complimentary light refreshments and a cash bar with additional fare for sale.

For more information, contact Teri Hall at 410-278-3062.

WEEKDAYS

THROUGH - MARCH 31

WINTER HOURS SET FOR  
EQUIPMENT RESOURCE  
CENTER

Open Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. in Bldg. 2184, 410-278-4124.

MARCH 27 - APRIL 7  
CIRCUS TIME

Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus Presents DRAGONS at the 1st Mariner Arena, Baltimore. Tickets are \$16.75 (opening day), and \$19.25 all ages. Get your tickets at the MWR Leisure Travel Services in the APG North recreation center, Bldg 3326. For information, call 410-278-4011/4907.

SATURDAYS

CRITTER FEEDINGS

Eden Mill Nature Center will be offering feedings on Saturdays through March at 3 p.m. Open to all ages. Join us in the nature center as we feed our critters. Take a turn feeding one of the turtles or a snake. Space is limited to 10 participants so pre-register early by calling 410-836-3050 or emailing edenmillnaturecenter@gmail.com. Visit [www.edenmill.org](http://www.edenmill.org) for information.

ONGOING

APG COMMUNITY YARD SALES

AA Recreation Center - Saturdays, April 6, May 4

EA Recreation Center - Saturday, June 1

8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Tables and chairs will be provided. All items being sold must be clean and in working condition. To reserve a table: Inside the recreation center ballroom, pricing is \$20 for a 6-foot table and \$35 for two tables. On the patio, pricing is \$15 for one 6-ft table and \$25 for two 6-foot tables. For more information or to reserve your space, call 410-278-4011/4907.

DLA SITE CLOSURE

DLA Disposition Services Aberdeen will be closed April 1–12 to prepare for a systems upgrade and will reopen April 15 as training continues and the computer system is deployed.

For more information, contact Lorraine Temple at 410-306-4112, visit <http://www.dispositionservices.dla.mil/>, or call the DLA customer center at 1-877-DLA-CALL (1-877-352-2255) 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

PICNIC RESERVATIONS

Reserve your picnic dates now! The three APG Picnic Areas (Shore Park, Woodpecker Point in Aberdeen, and Skippers Point in Edgewood) may be reserved for outings by all ID cardholders. Prime dates are going fast, so make your reservations now. For more information call 278-5789/4124.



**MORE  
ONLINE**  
More events can  
be seen at [www.apgnews.apg.army.mil/calendar](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil/calendar).



**APG North Chapel** (Aberdeen)  
**CATHOLIC**

- Mon 25 Mar, 11:45 a.m., Annunciation
- Sun 24 Mar, 8:30 a.m., Palm Sunday
- Wed 27 Mar, 5:30 p.m., Healing Mass/Anointing
- Fri 29 Mar, 3 p.m., Veneration of Cross
- Sat 30 Mar, 8 p.m., Easter Vigil Mass
- Sun 31 Mar, 8:45 a.m., Easter Sunday

- PROTESTANT**
- Sun 24 Mar, 10:15 a.m., Palm Sunday
  - Sun 31 Mar, 10:15 a.m., Easter Sunday

- GOSPEL**
- Sun 24 Mar, 10:15 a.m., Palm Sunday
  - Sun 31 Mar, noon, Easter Sunday

**APG South Chapel** (Edgewood)  
**CATHOLIC**

- Fri 22 Mar, 6 p.m., Stations/Soup & Bread

- Sun 24 Mar, 10:45 a.m., Palm Sunday
- Thur 28 Mar, 7 p.m., Holy Thursday
- Fri 29 Mar, 3 p.m., Good Friday
- Sun 31 Mar, 10:45 a.m., Easter Sunday

- PROTESTANT**
- Sun 24 Mar, 9:15 a.m., Palm Sunday
  - Sun 31 Mar, 9:15 a.m., Easter Sunday

**LENTEN LUNCH & BIBLE STUDY**  
Every Wed through 27 Mar, noon, AA Chapel Fellowship Hall

**“THE DRAMA OF EASTER”**  
31 Mar 2013, 0630  
**Location:** Behind Top of the Bay  
Join us afterwards for a continental breakfast at Top of the Bay

**JEWISH HOLY DAYS**  
**PASSOVER:** 25 Mar to 2 Apr (Community Seder 26 Mar)  
**POC:** Col. Jonas Vogelhut, 443-619-2304

# Contact your provider online

By **CPT TAMMY BOLDS**  
*Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic*

Do you hate going to see the doctor for something as simple as a medication refill or to get routine lab results?

At Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, where your health is our goal, we are pleased to offer our patients a new, convenient way to connect to the Primary Care Clinic. Using the Internet, you can now communicate with us online through the RelayHealth messaging service.

The RelayHealth messaging service is a safe, secure, and confidential way to communicate about your non-urgent healthcare needs. It’s as easy to use as e-mail, but incorporates stronger security measures that ensure your privacy.

Any time you wish, you can use the RelayHealth service to:

- Consult your provider regarding non-urgent health matters or symptoms
- Request prescription renewals
- Request lab or x-ray results
- Request referrals
- Request a form completion from a visit, such as a note for school or work
- Access health education

Interested? If so, just take a few minutes to sign up at **www.relayhealth.com** and click register in the upper right corner to begin. Any questions or concerns about RelayHealth can be directed to Capt. Tammy Bolds, Group Practice Manager at 410-278-9103. We look forward to hearing from you online.



# Security clearance and possible furlough impacts

By **JOSEPH KAFFL**  
*Installation Security Manager*

Holding a security clearance or possessing a restricted area badge is considered to be a privilege and is dependent on each individual meeting a number of requirements that extend to personal conduct both on and off the job.

One of these critical requirements is appropriately handling your personal financial responsibilities. Having excess amounts of debt can be a disqualifier that may cause you to lose your clearance and/or access to restricted areas. If these requirements are integral to the performance of your duties, the loss of these privileges could result in your separation from federal service.

The final determination regarding your clearance is made by the Department of Defense Consolidated Adjudications Facility, DoD CAF, in combination with a commander's recommendation. The worst thing you can do as a federal employee is to stop making payments to creditors or, what is known as, walking away from debt. In most cases the DoD CAF will consider this a disqualifying factor that cannot be mitigated. If you find yourself unable to meet your debt obligations, your best course of action is to seek out the services of a credible financial management service

that may be able to negotiate a reduced payment plan with your creditors. It is vital, if you pursue this course of action, to select a credible provider since there are companies that claim to provide this service but are scams.

With the potential for unpaid furloughs and a reduction of income of up to 20 percent for the rest of the fiscal year looming, financial advisors are urging federal employees to look at their personal expenditures and eliminate any expenses that are not vital. If you crunch your numbers and discover you will be unable to meet your basic bills in the event of being furloughed, beginning to eliminate or reduce expenses such as eating out, cable or other entertainment costs, home improvements or vacations is a wise course of action.

Reducing extraneous non-essential expenditures such as expanded cable service, eating out and eliminating expensive vacations during the furlough period may be all you need to do to remain solvent. Such actions will indicate your personal willingness to address debt in a responsible manner and will be most likely viewed positively by the DoD CAF in their adjudication of a person's security clearance vs. debt issue.

For more information, contact Joseph Kaffl at 410-278-9726 or joseph.s.kaffl.civ@mail.mil.



Photo by Rachel Ponder

## A bountiful harvest

Andrea Miller of CHRA's processing department and Ken Wilson of the APG Post Office load food donations, part of Harford County's Harvest for the Hungry campaign, March 8. APG community members were encouraged to drop off healthy, non-perishable food items at various locations on post. This year's campaign ran from Feb. 7 to March 8 and garnered more than three tons of food to help those in need in Harford County.



Photo by Syreeta Gross

## Taking home the prize

Christopher White, a visual information specialist with the Aberdeen Test Center Technical Imaging Division poses with the iPad door prize he won during the MWR Travel Fair at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center March 13.



# Army-wide program returns barracks management to NCOs

By **LUKE ELLIOTT**  
*U.S. Army IMCOM*

Since the summer of 2012, personnel from Army installations around the world have worked to change the way barracks are managed across the Army. The First Sergeants Barracks Program 2020 puts the responsibility of providing barracks management and ensuring good order and discipline back in hands of the Army units.

“The core principles of FSBP 2020 are to support the mission, take care of Soldiers and use resources wisely,” said Connie Glenn, chief, Housing Division, Headquarters, U.S. Army Installation Management Command. “We realigned the roles of the garrison and mission units as a means to standardize barracks management worldwide and reduce costs.”

FSBP 2020 is a program implemented by the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management and IMCOM. Its goal is to see that barracks are managed through the military units and noncommissioned officer channels, with ongoing support from the IMCOM garrison personnel.

“By the end of 2012, units moved to the forefront as the face of barracks management when they assumed an increased responsibility for the day-to-day management of barracks operations,” said Glenn. “Garrison staffs fell back to a more supportive oversight role, providing units with expertise in property management, training, mentoring and to serve as the liaison between the units and the garrison.”

To develop the plan, IMCOM activated an FSBP 2020 task force comprised of experts from IMCOM Headquarters, OACSIM and 12 installations from around the world. Each garrison also created an internal team to provide support and technical advice as the plan to transfer barracks management responsibilities back to the units was being developed. Officials say the plan is a major shift in the barracks management paradigm and it was a lot to accomplish under a short deadline.

“Getting unit-level military leadership back in the barracks is a good



U.S. Army Photo  
**Soldiers can relax in their downtime in the courtyard of Massello Hall Barracks at Fort Bliss, Texas.**

thing,” said Mark Hjuler, acting chief, Unaccompanied Personnel Housing Branch, Housing Division, Headquarters, IMCOM. “Noncommissioned officers need to be in the barracks checking on the living conditions and morale and welfare of their Soldiers.”

Historically, it was commonplace for noncommissioned officers and individual units to manage the barracks where their Soldiers lived. It became apparent in 2007 that conditions in some of the Army’s barracks had deteriorated to an unacceptable level. In addition, the Army was also in the process of investing billions of dollars in barracks improvements and construction. This led the Army to reassign responsibility of barracks management functions to the garrison staff.

According to Glenn, by 2012, the growth in the costs to the Army made garrison management of the barracks no longer sustainable.

“Garrisons across the installation management community have done a fine job managing these barracks while living up to our commitment to ensure Soldiers have high quality living quarters,” said Hjuler. “Now it is time to put the NCOs back in charge where they belong.”

Staff Sgt. Margarita Thomas, barracks

manager with the 31st Combat Support Hospital, assumed her part of the new management plan at Fort Bliss, Texas.

“We [NCOs] have a better understanding of who is living in the barracks and exactly where they are living, as well as the conditions they are living in,” said Thomas. “The Soldiers really like having one of their own to come to for issues.”

The program is designed to get non-commissioned officer more involved in their Soldiers well being.

“There are a lot less doors to knock on to get services requested or address room assignments,” said Thomas. “Instead of going to an outside agency, they are able to come directly to me.”

Despite handing the management of the barracks back to the military units, garrisons across the Army Installation Management Community still have a large role to play to include providing oversight of accompanied housing, managing other installation facilities, and providing resources, support and training for the units who are assuming barracks management.

“FSBP 2020 is designed to give units the resources, training and responsibility while ensuring the quality of life standards are met,” said Glenn. “NCO

leadership, with IMCOM guidance, is critically important to the program’s success. We have to ensure standards and barracks quality so that the garrison housing divisions continue to serve as the primary source of on-the-job training, oversight, quality assurance and mentorship to the military units.”

At Fort Bliss, Texas, the Garrison’s Single Soldier Branch provided the initial training to the units and the Soldiers assuming the management duties.

“We provide ongoing occupancy maintenance training as transition of responsibilities occurs within the units,” said Barbara Lehman, chief of the Single Soldier Housing Branch, Fort Bliss Directorate of Public Works. “We also conduct stakeholder meetings, which serve as an additional training forum and a way for Soldiers managing barracks to get help with issues.”

The branch also provides area managers who will conduct ongoing site visits and help unit barracks managers work through issues.

“They have been very helpful,” said Thomas, who is responsible for 122 barracks rooms at Fort Bliss. “They also hold monthly meetings, which help us stay up to date with the latest information.”

To help in this training effort, OACSIM and IMCOM released a document in January called the First Sergeants Barracks Program 2020 Handbook. The handbook outlines the program and serves as a guide to managing and operating an Army barracks building. The document explains roles and responsibilities, quarters eligibility, key management and control, facility maintenance, furnishing management, property loss and damages, inspections and many other topics.

“This is a great document,” said Hjuler. “When I was a first sergeant, I didn’t have a document like this.”

While the program is working through some kinks, a huge part of the process of transitioning these responsibilities back to units and NCOs has been completed. Since the summer of 2012, 52 of the 74 IMCOM installations have migrated basic barracks management responsibilities to military units.



# IMCOM preps for sequestration, furlough

Continued from Page 1

has notified Congress of their intent to furlough most civilian employees up to 22 non-consecutive days – one day per week until the end of the fiscal year. Active duty military, Reserve and National Guard are exempt from furloughs.

How an individual employee or activity is affected by furloughs will be subject to the command and the overall guidance of human resources and legal advice.

Furloughs have the potential to impact approximately 27,000 IMCOM employees. There may be some exceptions for those deployed in a combat zone and those with duties that protect life, health and the safety of Soldiers and their Families.

All employees who may be furloughed are entitled by law to a 30-day notice before implementation. Notices are scheduled to go out between March 18 and 22.

The financial burden of the furlough will be the equivalent of an 8 1/2 percent annual reduction in pay. However, a one-day-per-week furlough during the last weeks of the fiscal year (from late April through September) equates to a 20 percent reduction in pay during that time period.

Overtime and comp time are curtailed, and no employee will be allowed to volunteer services during the furlough. Telework and the use of government issued electronics, such as blackberries, laptops or iPods will not be permitted on furlough days.

An additional burden at IMCOM will be the potential termination of tempo-

**Overtime and comp time are curtailed, and no employee will be allowed to volunteer services during the furlough. Telework and the use of government issued electronics, such as blackberries, laptops or ipods will not be permitted on furlough days.**

rary and term employees. The permanent workforce may have to pick up and fulfill these duties left vacant, while working 20 percent fewer man-hours.

Health benefits, flexible spending accounts, federal group life insurance, vision and dental plans and federal long term care plans are not impacted during this furlough period. However, the employee is still responsible for the full premiums due for these benefits, even though their gross pay will be reduced.

These factors are expected to increase the stress on the workforce as they feel the impact on their home budgets while attempting to balance work priorities during a shortened work week.

Other questions on the furloughs are emerging. For example, how the work week schedule will be affected by furloughs is not clear. Some facilities and activities may accomplish their mission with a reduced workweek, while others may go to a rotating schedule in an attempt to maintain customer service.

Discretion is likely to be in the hands

of the supervisor or division leader with guidance from the garrison commander, but clear guidance is not yet available.

Employee vacation days cannot be used to cover a furlough day, but there is no prohibition to taking accrued annual leave during the furlough period, with supervisor approval. The scheduling of annual leave during the furlough will likely be a lot tighter due to the reduced work hours and annual leave may need to be cancelled to meet the mission.

If a furlough day is scheduled immediately before and after a federal holiday, the employee will not earn the holiday pay. This has the potential to have additional impact on pay for pay-periods including Monday, May 27 (Memorial Day), Thursday, July 4 (Independence Day), and Monday, September 2 (Labor Day).

The availability of unemployment compensation to ease the effect of furloughs is difficult to summarize because the rules of each state will apply. Employees may seek part-time employment in the civilian sector, however, they

should discuss with their supervisor to meet ethics requirements.

The effect of furloughs on an employee's Thrift Savings Plan depends on whether deductions are based on percentage of basic pay or on dollar amount and it may affect the agency's contribution. Since some retirement contributions are also based on a percentage of pay, officials encourage employees to meet with their human resources representatives and/or financial planners to determine how furloughs might affect their TSP and retirement contributions.

The availability of Family and MWR programs may also be affected, but the full impact is not yet known. This may impact the Army's ability to mitigate the negative effects of the furlough by providing morale, welfare and recreation activities and family support programs.

All sequestration and furlough plans and actions are designed to be reversible. If Congress passes a balanced deficit reduction plan that the president signs, the impact of sequestration on civilian employees may be avoided.

There is activity in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate to write bills which would soften the effects of sequestration; however there is no guarantee that furloughs will not be enacted for the full term.

For more information on how sequestration and furloughs affect the IMCOM workforce, go to <http://www.imcom.army.mil/Organization/G1Personnel.aspx>.

# APG employee co-authors book on local mansion

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through the era of its most famous owners, Harry and Prudence Gough – who named it Perry Hall after the Gough family's ancestral residence in Staffordshire, England.

Kief and Smith detailed the numerous changes in ownership, construction projects, renovations and even recovery from a great fire to the modern-day blossoming of a residential community that now surrounds the property.

The director of public affairs for Humanim, an agency that serves children and adults with disabilities, Smith said his mother once worked in the medical field at the former Edgewood Arsenal.

He said Kief joined the group a year after it was established and the two agreed that the Perry Hall Mansion was "a story worth telling."

"He's a professional photographer, I do a great deal of writing and we collaborated on the research," he said. "It was one of those things that just happened. The best thing about it is that it preserved this legacy and tells a story a lot of people can learn from."

"And this particular vehicle," he added indicating the mansion, "offers a visual history worth more than just words. The most significant thing is this is a story worth telling and our book is a great way to explain why we should care."

After years of storytelling followed



Photo by Yvonne Johnson

**Co-authors Jeffrey Smith [foreground] and Sean Kief, an APG Garrison photographer, sign autographs and chat with guests during the book-signing event for their book, "Perry Hall Mansion," which was held at the mansion March 9.**

by years of research, Kief knows the mansion's history by heart, from the third floor servants quarters, to the basement containing a former wine cellar with an in-ground well and giant wood-beamed wine racks on one side and a room that still bears marks from shack-

les used to detain unruly slaves on the other, to the main kitchen and its walk-in fireplace to the building's focal point – the Great Hall.

Kief said he's been interested in the house his whole life but because it was always in private ownership, he only got to tour it after the group gained access to it from Baltimore County. He had been researching the house about five years when he and Smith decided to write the book.

"I've always loved Arcadia Books and we thought we had enough to produce a book of our own," he said.

Once the proposal was approved and the contract was signed they had six months to produce the finished product. Numerous family members who once resided in the mansion still populate the area – at least one attended the book signing – and many who were contacted shared their stories and filled information gaps for the authors.

Kief said it was a labor of love.

"And the beauty of it is it was no cost to us; not done for the money. We're just happy to bring attention to the mansion."

He said the group hopes to eventually provide security to the mansion grounds so important relics in the states archives relating to the mansion's history can be displayed there and to restore the Great Hall enough to host small events and meetings.

"Perry Hall Mansion" is sold locally at Barnes & Noble, Walgreens and on Amazon.com. A portion of proceeds from direct sales through Kief or Smith go to Historic Perry Hall Mansion, Inc.

For more information, visit [www.perryhallmansion.org](http://www.perryhallmansion.org).

# Timber harvest benefits APG

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(DPW). "This timber harvest is part of a comprehensive forest conservation plan, approved by APG and Maryland's Department of Natural Resources."

Osborne said like any commercial development, the project was subject to multiple public comments and forums to obtain community input. He also noted that statutory and regulatory guidelines govern the project, including APG's Forest Conservation Plan.

APG Forester Scott English said SJP paid the U.S. Treasury the fair market value for the timber—\$45,000—which will go into the Army Forestry Account. APG uses money from that account to fund forest improvement projects for APG, the second largest forest owner in Maryland.

"We take environmental stewardship very seriously at APG, and our leadership recognized that while mission requirements may dictate forest removal, opportunities exist that enhance and sustain our forest resources," said English, who is also an environmental protection specialist with the installation's DPW.

He said APG's focus on the Army's triple bottom line—mission, environment and community—has resulted in numerous awards and honors, including the latest Army Award for APG's Installation Restoration program.

English said preserving the environment while simultaneously supporting APG organizations that support our

nation's Warfighters is a delicate balance, but one that he and other environmental officials constantly strive to satisfy.

APG has spent more than \$400,000, most of which comes from the Army Forestry Account, on forest resource management between Fiscal Years 2011 and 2012.

"Military installations around the U.S. are islands of biodiversity," said English, "and APG is a prime example of how natural resource managers can develop and sustain training landscapes that are necessary to support the installation's 96 tenant organizations, as well as future Army mission needs."

He said the installation's successful forest management activities have nurtured and sustained APG's thriving bald eagle population—one of the largest in the region.

English said over the last 95 years, the installation's forest cover has increased from 3,000 to more than 17,000 acres, including over 1,000 acres of forest planted by the Army.

"APG has treasured its forest resource for many years and continues to manage it in a way that supports current mission requirements while sustaining it into the future."

With SJP incorporating best management practices and green strategies, Osborne said the EUL project is a significant benefit to the APG community.

# Police officer of the year

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"I had no clue," he said. "I'm humbled and very appreciative that they thought well enough of me to nominate me for this honor."

He surmised that everything he's done since leaving the military has helped shape the law enforcement officer he's become.

"I think law enforcement was always in the back of my mind," said the Brentwood, Long Island native, adding that while in corrections he learned as much from fellow officers as he did from the criminals they were paid to oversee. In every arena, communication skills - how well you communicate with others – is paramount Mullins said.

A successful "encounter" with an irate driver, for example, is when the offender understands why they are in violation of a particular offense and is in agreement even if they are ticketed.

"It's all about how you talk to people," he said.

He said that what he appreciates about APG the most is that he's still learning.

"You learn something new every day, whether you realize it or not," he said. "We deal with the same things on post that they deal with outside the gates only with less frequency."

Noting APG's high-profile test and

evaluation and chemical-biological missions, he added, "And we can't afford to get complacent. Because out of all the false alarms or resolved incidents, there always remains the potential for this call to be 'That One Time.' You have to have that mindset. You have to stay ready."

"He said that at the end of the day, success is measured by, "your own personal [level of] satisfaction and attitude."

"The best part about working here is the people I work with. Coming back to APG was like coming back to being a part of the Army family. I still run into people who knew me before I worked on Gate 13 and they still call me 'first sergeant' and ask about my family."

He added that DES is a good place for those starting out in law enforcement as well as for those with years of experience behind them.

"We have a lot of retired officers from other departments and states with 20-plus years experience on me," he said. "This is a great place for the younger guys to get their feet wet in the system. As for me, I like being here because it's close to home."

"I've already had my career. I'm happy where I am and I enjoy what I'm doing."



# Women’s event offers career training, celebrates history

By **RACHEL PONDER**  
*APG News*

More than 150 Aberdeen Proving Ground employees attended the 23rd Annual Federal Women’s Program training conference March 13 at the Mallette Training Center Auditorium on the C4ISR campus.

The FWP promotes the advancement of federally employed women in the workplace. The conference is an annual opportunity to address employment concerns. This year’s theme was “Women inspiring innovation through imagination: celebrating women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.”

“This theme honors generations of women who throughout American history have used their intelligence, imagination, sense of wonder, and tenacity to make extraordinary contributions to the STEM fields,” said Rosa Garriss-Turner, from the APG Garrison Equal Employment Opportunity Office who opened the conference. “Women’s history is our nation’s story. It is the story of how notable and ordinary women have changed America and how we will continue to do so.”

The guest speaker of the women’s history observance was retired Brig. Gen. Belinda Pinckney, vice president of business development for Owen Software Ltd., a company whose focus is growing future leaders in STEM careers.

Pinckney said positive influences gave her the confidence to become an Army leader. She said a female math teacher inspired her to become a finance specialist in the Army, and when she was an enlisted Soldier, noncommissioned officers encouraged her to take her career further by going to Officer Candidate School.

“Mentoring is very important, whether you get it from your superiors, whether you get it from your peers or whether you get it from your subordinates, you get it at all



Photo by Sean Kief

**Retired Brig. Gen. Belinda Pinckney, vice president of business development for Owen Software, Ltd., whose focus is growing future leaders in STEM careers, gives a presentation during the annual Federal Women’s Program training conference March 13 at the Mallette Training Center Auditorium.**

levels,” she said. “To a certain extent, everyone is a leader.”

Pinckney added that diversity can create success in the workplace.

“I like differences; I like when people with different thinking come to the table, because I know that gives me a wider variety of solution sets to choose from,” she

said. “My approach was always, let’s look at the good people bring to the table. It’s the leader’s responsibility to position people for success.”

The program included educational performances. ATEC/AEC employees recited “Phenomenal Women” by Maya Angelou; Rachel Acevedo, from CHRA, sang “I am Woman (Hear me Roar),” by Helen Reddy and Rene-sha Robinson from CECOM sang “I’m Every Woman,” by Whitney Houston.

The daylong event included workshops on interviewing, mentoring, and Army acquisition career pathways. During lunch, attendees visited vendors and participated in giveaways.

First time attendee LaVern Dowdy, from the CBRNE Analytical Remediation Activity Lab, brought her granddaughter and niece, both high school juniors, to the conference so they could learn more about government careers. She said that they enjoyed networking with other women who work on post.

“The women that I met were very supportive. I am refreshed and enlightened that I have forces that stand up and support me as a federal employee,” she said. “I am more informed of what ‘sisterhood’ really feels like and what I have been missing!”

Marcia Sommers and Karen Pitts from CECOM said that they thought the information, such as how to prepare for an interview, was helpful.

“The information presented was relevant to today’s current situation and circumstances,” said Pitts, referring to budget freezes and possible furloughs. “I felt encouraged talking to others. Events like these help keep morale up.”

The FWP committee is seeking members from APG organizations and units. For more information call 410-436-5501.

# AER expects to raise \$65,000 in 2013

Continued from Page 1

to raise \$65,000 in contributions. Established in World War II, the AER program provides service members, their families, retirees and widowers with assistance for certain types of emergency needs and scholarship grants.

“The AER program makes it possible for Soldiers to help one another and their Families,” said APG Garrison’s Headquarters and Headquarters Company Commander Capt. Maritzabel Mustafaa, this year’s campaign coordinator.

“In 2012, the local AER campaign raised \$59,950 in contributions, and provided \$177,738 in assistance to local Soldiers, Family members, and retirees in the form of grants and loans,” Mustafaa said.

In 2012 AER provided \$76.8 mil-

lion in assistance to more than 59,000 Soldiers and their Families. More than 38% of that assistance was provided under the streamlined Command Referral Program where company commanders and first sergeants have the authority to approve AER loans for their Soldiers up to \$1,500. Last year at APG, 4 percent of all Soldier loans were attributed to command referral.

AER assistance is based upon a valid need and is flexible in responding to all types of financial situations. For example, AER can assist with travel costs for emergency leave, rent or mortgage payments, utilities, food, car payments or repairs, and other basic living expenses, depending on the need and situation.

“There is no limit on the amount of assistance that can be provided, and no limit on the number of times a Soldier may make a request for assistance,” Mustafaa said. “Assistance is normally in the form of no-interest loans repaid by the Soldier via allotment. The motto of AER officers is ‘Find a Way to Say Yes.’”

AER funds are only allowed to be solicited from military personnel, active and retired, therefore civilians and dependents are not actively solicited, however, anyone may contribute to AER by contacting their unit or battalion representative, or the post AER officer.

Soldiers requiring AER assistance should contact their unit chain of command

or visit the installation AER office, located at Garrison Headquarters, Bldg. 305.

Soldiers and Families not near an Army installation can get AER assistance at an Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard base from the Air Force Aid Society, Navy Marine Corps Relief Society, and Coast Guard Mutual Assistance respectively or from the American Red Cross call center at 877-272-7337.

Additional program information is available at [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org) or in the Army Blue Book application for smart phones.

For more information, contact your organization’s AER representative, or call HCC at 410-278-3000.

# Engineering team provides assistance in Afghanistan

Continued from Page 3

The 1-9 Cav Soldiers came to the RFAST-C PIF to vet the models and prototypes before production started. The 1-9 Cav provided a welding machine and a Soldier to perform welding.

Spetla said the team developed camaraderie with the Soldiers working on the project. The face-to-face interaction with Soldiers is a benefit not typically available back home.

“Even though in the States I’m helping Soldiers, here, I see their faces and talk to them. The day of installation was the best

day I’ve had since I’ve been here,” he said.

Because of engineering limitations in a combat zone, resourcefulness is a necessity.

“Here in Bagram, you have to use what you’ve got. We don’t always have everything we need on hand. We went on a reconnaissance mission on the base,” Spetla said. “Sometimes it’s like treasure-hunting.

“It’s part of the way of life here -- people helping, giving and taking. We have no Home Depot.”

DeStephano said another challenge

was the compound’s remote location. Unlike a modification to a ground vehicle that is brought to the PIF, the group did not have access to the site after the initial day of taking measurements.

“This was different from most projects that we’ve worked on. We used our existing knowledge to get a working design to fit in the process. We had to adjust it when we went into the field,” DeStephano said. “We came up with something that we could install in place using practical tools.”

McGauley said the tight deadlines and restrictions on equipment and materials, compared with those typically available in the Army’s research centers in the United States, forces the team to develop new ways of thinking.

“This job pushes everybody to their limit and then forces them to go beyond that limit, finding new ways to do things that perhaps they hadn’t seen or thought of before. RFAST-C is a force multiplier for the units on the ground here in Afghanistan,” he said.

# Brain Injury Awareness Month increases awareness

Continued from Page 1

Health Care Services Wendy Witmer. “TBI can result from numerous causes including contact sports, falls, motor vehicle crashes, combat situations, etc.”

KUSAHC’s Staff Sgt. Joseph Hill, who is assisting with the event’s organization, said that this event will help loved ones of TBI survivors better understand the symptoms.

“People generally associate brain

injuries with active duty service members but in reality it affects the entire population,” he said.

Hill added that symptoms can vary from person to person, and are usually not obvious to the outside observer. Physical symptoms include dizziness, sensitivity to light and occasional nausea. Cognitive symptoms might include difficulty with concentration, memory

loss and clouded thinking.

“The effects of TBI can impact physical, cognitive, and emotional functioning, which may result in poor school or work performance, decreased productivity, and an inability to complete the mission,” Witmer said. “It is important to recognize the signs and symptoms of TBI and provide treatment as soon as possible in order to provide the greatest

potential for recovery.”

Hill said the event will be broadcast to at least fifteen military installations across the United States via video-conferencing.

Beverages and food from UFood Grill will be provided for attendees. For more information e-mail Hill at [joseph.c.hill2@us.army.mil](mailto:joseph.c.hill2@us.army.mil), or call 817-403-9706.

**Angela Lang** is a registered dietician who works for Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. Currently she is available by appointment for nutrition consultation for common needs such as obesity, high cholesterol and diabetes to ailments less common such as digestive problems, celiac disease and preconception nutrition for TRICARE members.

Lang holds a Bachelor of Science degree in dietetics from the University of Delaware and a Master of Science degree from Towson University in human resource management. Lang started working as a dietician at KUSAHC in November of last year.

Lang has worked as a dietician for 15 years. Her previous assignments include



**Angela Lang** KUSAHC’s registered dietician

treating patients recovering from various surgeries, strokes, motor vehicle collisions and disability. She also cared for patients in long-term care and with patients preparing for and recovering from weight loss surgeries.

“I work with an amazing group of medical professionals and look forward to helping military personnel, retirees and Family members,” she said.

I love working with our active duty Soldiers and learning about their career

and talk about how a healthy lifestyle impacts their ability to work and live a healthy life. I enjoy talking to them about ways to focus on the “Performance Triad”--sleep, activity and nutrition, and how minor changes can make a big difference to their health.”

The cost of nutrition consultation is covered by TRICARE. Lang’s office is located on the first floor of KUSAHC, in primary care. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information call the clinic at 410-278-1813. To schedule an appointment, call 410-278-5475. For more information visit <http://kusahc.nrmc.amedd.army.mil/Pages/nutrition.aspx>.